



*Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Transitional Assistance*

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Governor


MARYLOU SUDDERS  
Secretary

KARYN POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

MARY SHEEHAN  
Acting Commissioner

**Online Guide Transmittal 2022-76  
September 23, 2022**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**

**From:**  **Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**

**Re: SNAP: Certification Period Assignment for Households Receiving Expedited Benefits**

**Overview**

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Expedited benefits are issued to eligible households who qualify based on the expedited criteria. These benefits are issued for a one- or two-month benefit cycle, depending on where the application date falls within the client's cyclical month.

Based on clarification from FNS, upon approval for ongoing benefits, the established certification period for the household must include the one- or two- month expedited period. Prior to this, the Department established cases for full certification periods following the expedited period. The expedited period will now count as a part of the client's certification period.

BEACON enhancements have been made to reflect this change and pertinent notices have been updated.

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**Overview  
(Continued)**

Additionally, when a client is denied because they fail to provide mandatory verifications after expedited benefits have been issued, they will be denied for the reason “Ineligible for SNAP beyond initial expedited issuance.”

As part of this certification period change, the “Ineligible for SNAP beyond initial expedited issuance” denial reason will now generate a notice to clients and have reinstatement functionality in BEACON.

This is anticipated to go live on Friday, September 30, 2022.

**Please Note:** Although you will see reference to standard interview procedures, we are still operating under a waiver as it pertains to interviews. This transmittal does not change the procedures we have been following relative to interviews. This transmittal issues changes on how certification periods will be denoted when expedited benefits have been issued. You must continue to follow the interview guidance in the COVID-19 book.

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**Purpose**

This Online Guide update advises staff of:

- corrections made to a household’s certification period when expedited benefits have been issued; and
  - functionality changes associated with the “Ineligible for SNAP beyond initial expedited issuance” denial reason.
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**Revised Online  
Guide Pages**

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Application Processing  
**Chapter:** SNAP Application Processing  
**Page:** Expedited Benefits

**Topic:** SNAP  
**Book:** Application Processing  
**Chapter:** SNAP Application Processing  
**Page:** Reinstatement After SNAP Application Denial

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**Questions**

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email the DTA Mailbox.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.

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